

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HIRAIWA
Serial No.:
Filed: February 3, 2000
For: NETWORK MANAGING METHOD AND SELECTING METHOD OF
NETWORK MANAGER
Group A.U.:

February 3, 2000
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As a means of complying with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR § 1.56 and in keeping with the guidelines of 37 CFR § 1.98, Applicant hereby submits information thought to be relevant to the examination of the above-identified application. Also submitted herewith is a completed form PTO-1449.

Applicant, through the undersigned attorney, hereby certifies that, unless submitted herewith, no English language translation is presently available to those individuals identified in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) for any non-English language reference(s) cited.

U.S. Patent No. 5,365,523 (Derby et al.) apparently relates to a method and apparatus for grouping access agents in nodes at the LAN/WAN interface so that the access agents may be

managed by the WAN as a group. If communications between access agents in the group are broken, the agents will coalesce into subgroups and continue performing communication jobs as a group activity to maintain group operation integrity. Each access agent contains a finite state machine to perform the tasks of group formation and maintenance.

European Patent No. 0 794 636 (Maegawa) apparently relates to a network management method and apparatus for performing communication between any nodes in a network wherein a plurality of nodes are connected. A connection request having at least a logical node name of the destination of connection is successfully propagated to a node having a possibility of active connection with the node of the destination of connection based on information on nodes in the vicinity of that node stored in each node. A route for substantially connecting desired nodes is searched for, the nodes substantially connect and communication is performed.

"Wireless LAN formation based on self-organization method" (Shigeno et al.) apparently relates to a method of self-organization of a decentralized network whose characteristics were evaluated by computer simulation.

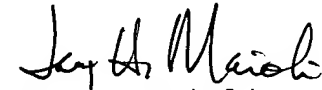
No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. However, if a fee is required for this submission, the Commissioner is

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authorized to charge the requisite fee to our Deposit Account No.
03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,
COOPER & DUNHAM LLP



Jay H. Maioli
Reg. No. 27,213

JHM/SL
Enclosure

Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket N .

Serial N .

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Applicant

Hisaki Hiraiwa

Filing Date

02/03/00

Group

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date if Appropriate |
|------------------|----|-----------------|----------|--------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| | AA | 5 3 6 5 5 2 3 | 11/15/94 | Derby et al. | 370 | 85.2 | |
| | AB | | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation | |
|--|----|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AE | 0 7 9 4 6 3 6 | 09/10/97 | European Patent | H04L | 12/24 | X | |
| | AF | 9 3 3 1 3 4 0 | 12/22/97 | Japan | H04L | 12/40 | | X |
| | AG | | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | | |

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| | AK | H. Shigeno et al., "Wireless LAN formation based on self-organization method", Technical Report of The Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers, Vol. 93 No. 196, pages 59-64 |
| | AL | |
| | AM | |
| | AN | |
| | AO | |
| | AP | |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this from with next communication to applicant.